

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on April 12, 2007.

Claims 22-25, 27-29, 46, and 47 are amended. Claims 35-40 and 48-52 are canceled by way of this amendment, including previously withdrawn claims 37-40 and 48-52. No claims are added. As a result, claims 22-29, 46, and 47 are now pending in this application.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings as filed on January 26, 2001 under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as failing to show embedded inhibiting particles. Accordingly, FIG. 7 has been amended by showing a particle 120 embedded between a bump 132 and pad 112. Support may be found in Applicants' original written description, for example, on page 11, lines 4-10.

A complete copy of the drawings is submitted herewith, in compliance with current U.S. Patent Office rules, such that each sheet is identified as "REPLACEMENT SHEET." It is believed that these drawings are in compliance with 37 CFR 1.83(a) and 1.121(d), and Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw his objection to the drawings.

Examiner's Indication of Allowable Subject Matter and Corresponding Amendments to Claims

Claims 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 35, 36, 46, and 47 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but they were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent claim 22 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in claim 35, and claim 35 has been canceled. Thus, claim 22 should be allowable. In addition, claims 23-26 and 46, which are directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 22, should also be allowable. Claims 23-25 and 46 have been amended to depend from claim 22.

Independent claim 27 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in claim 36, and claim 36 has been canceled. Thus, claim 27 should be allowable. In addition, claims 28, 29, and 47, which are directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 27, should also be allowable. Claims 28-29 and 47 have been amended to depend from claim 27.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In view of the amendments to the claims, and the foregoing remarks, the rejections of claims 22, 26, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) are respectfully asserted to be moot.

Documents Cited But Not Relied Upon For This Office Action

Applicants need not respond to the assertion of pertinence stated for the Shi et al. reference cited but not relied upon by the Office Action, because this reference is not made part of the rejections in this Office Action. Applicants are expressly not admitting to this assertion and reserve the right to address the assertion should it form part of future rejections.

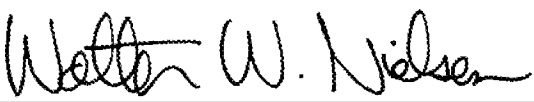
Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 22-29, 46, and 47 are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney Ann M. McCrackin (located in Minneapolis, Minnesota) at (612) 349-9592 or Applicants' below-signed attorney (located in Phoenix, Arizona) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By /  /

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